MR. S. PARTHASARATHY AIYANGAR : I cannot give off-hand. I will tell him later.

Fare in private buses.

282. *MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether the fare for private buses has been fixed by Government ;

(b) if so, what they are in each route ; and

(c) whether the Government have gone into the question of disparity between the charges in Government and private transport systems, and if so, with what result ?

MR. S. PARTHASARATHY AIYANGAR : *(a)* Yes.

(b) One chuckram per mile on fairly level roads, one chuckram and four cash on ghat roads and proportional fares on routes which cover hills and plains have been fixed as the maximum fares to be levied from passengers.

(c) No.

MR. K K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI : Have the Government enquired into the disparity between the charge of private transport systems and the State Transport ?

MR. S. PARTHASARATHY AIYANGAR : No official enquiry has been made but I know the difference is there.

MR. K. A. MATHEW : May I know why this disparity is allowed to continue ?

MR. S. PARTHASARATHY AIYANGAR : The State Transport has a lot of advantages which the private services do not have.

MR. K. A. MATHEW : May I know from the honourable member whether he has received any complaint about the fares charged by the private bus owners on the Kottayam-Kumili road ?

MR. S. PARTHASARATHY AIYANGAR : Yes.

MR. K. A. MATHEW : May I know what action has been taken with regard to that matter ?

MR. S. PARTHASARATHY AIYANGAR : Enquiries have been made and a definite order has been issued to the Transport Company that no such differences should be made. These orders were based exactly on these petitions.

MR. K. A. MATHEW : May I know whether the directions were observed by the Proprietors ?

MR. S. PARTHASARATHY AIYANGAR : I shall see to it.

MR. P. O. THOMAS : May I know from the member whether different rates are charged for different seats in the same bus on one of the lines ?

MR. S. PARTHASARATHY AIYANGAR : In fact there was a complaint in regard to the Quilon-Alleppey line. We issued an order that there should not be such a difference. There have been further representations that there should be some charge for reservation for a particular seat in order to avoid overcrowding and other difficulties.

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[Mr. S. Parthasarathy Aiyangar];

If people will plan their programme and ask for reservation, they should be respected. The Government are considering this question so that people who plan their programme should be able to pursue their programme and that people who rush at the last moment should have to wait for their seats.

MR. P. O. THOMAS : Shall I take it that different rates are permissible ?

MR. S. PARTHASARATHY AIYANGAR : It is under consideration.

MR. K. K CHELLAPPAN PILLAI : May I know from the honourable member whether the rates adhered to are according to the prescribed schedule ?

MR. S. PARTHASARATHY AIYANGAR : Yes.

MR. K. M. PAUL : Will not the same arrangement that is now obtaining for Express Service be applied here also ?

MR. S. PARTHASARATHY AIYANGAR : That is exactly the basis under consideration.

Licence fees for bicycles.

283. ✽ MR. K. A. MATHEW : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether the licence fees for bicycles in the State were received by the Government ;

(b) the total amount thereby collected ; and

(c) whether licences were issued to the cycle owners ?

MR. S. PARTHASARATHY AIYANGAR : *(a)* Tax for bicycles were received from Kanni 1121 onwards.

(b) Rs. 25,040-25 chs. 8 cash was collected up to the end of Mithunam 1121.

(c) A few licences are pending and the work is steadily progressing.

MR. K. A. MATHEW : May I know when the issue of licences for bicycles will be complete ?

MR. S. PARTHASARATHY AIYANGAR : It will take some time. We have had no statistics of cycles. This is the first year of the scheme in regard to cycles. I hope the work will be completed before the next quarter.

Motor Vehicles imported into Travancore.

284. ✽ MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the number of new Motor Vehicles imported into Travancore during the year 1120 and 1121 ; and

(*b*) the names of the individuals or firms authorised to purchase them with the number of vehicles purchased by each ?

MR. S. PARTHASARATHY AIYANGAR : (*a*) Transport Vehicles ... 209
Motor Cars ... 19.

(*b*) * Statement furnishing the information is laid on the table.

*Vide Appendix V.

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